

July 9, 2020

The July 9, 2020 virtual meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was conducted via Zoom and began at 7:38 p.m. Participating were Paul Tarlowe, Robert Jewell, Ruth Panté and Township Committeeman Glenn McGuinness; Dawn Smith was excused. Not responding to the invitation were Jim McMekin, Marin Martin, Kathie Todd, Glenn Todd and Township Committee liaison representative Desiree Dillon. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Minutes

The minutes could not be voted on for lack of a quorum; this will be addressed at the next meeting.

#### ANJEC Grant

The ANJEC grant applied for was intended for repairs to the trail at Cafferata Park. This application was turned down, and no explanation was given for the denial. The grant request was for the stone (\$528) and John Snyder, Superintendent of the Township Public Works Department, offered assistance from his department to transport the stone. Mr. Tarlowe has drafted a request to the Township Committee seeking financial assistance for the portion of Park expenses intended in the grant application. Mr. Jewell has offered to work with the Public Works Department. It was MOVED by Ms. Panté to authorize Mr. Tarlowe to submit this request to the Township Committee in the amount of \$550, seconded by Mr. Jewell; discussion: none; all in favor with no opposition or abstention; so moved.

#### Salem Oak Seedling

No word has been received from the state regarding delivery of the seedling, distribution is expected in September. Mr. Tarlowe has visited the parking area at Cafferata Park, and an overview of the Park was presented on screen. Mr. Tarlowe suggested a site for the tree which would provide shade to teams and spectators using the ballfield where residents could read the interpretive sign we hope to install. Ms. Panté suggested careful selection of the site to ensure safety. Mr. Jewell agreed the ball field was a sensible site.

#### Bluebird Nesting Boxes

Ms. Smith was not present.

#### Land Use Board

Mr. Jewell reported a variance has been granted for solar panels in Stephensburg, letters from neighbors are awaited; variances are needed for setback. The homeowner is having this done by a commercial company. Reselling power back to the power company is no longer an option; use of the generated power can now only go to the homeowner.

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#### Environmental Comments

Ms. Panté has spoken with JoAnn Fascenelli, Chair of the Green Team, who is putting together a draft of a scavenger hunt as a Township event that will showcase local historic sites but will hopefully encourage visitors to explore other parts of the Township.

Ms. Panté MOVED to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Clerk

**Next meeting date:**  
**August 13, 2020**